

House Committee on Health and Welfare

Minutes of Meeting
2018 Regular Session
May 2, 2018

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Frank A. Hoffmann, chairman of the House Committee on Health and Welfare, called the meeting to order at 9:08 a.m. in Room 5, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative Lawrence A. "Larry" Bagley
Representative Charles R. Chaney
Representative Kenny R. Cox
Representative Dodie Horton
Representative Marcus L. Hunter
Representative Katrina R. Jackson
Representative Robert A. Johnson
Representative H. Bernard LeBas
Representative Dustin Miller
Representative J. Rogers Pope
Representative Jerome Richard
Representative Joseph A. Stagni
Representative Julie Stokes
Representative Frank A. Hoffmann, chairman

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative Bob Hensgens, vice chairman

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Bethany Blackson, attorney
Drew Murray, legislative analyst
Felicie Jackson, secretary
Nevonda Reed, division director
Charlesetta Lavergne, administrative secretary

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Faye Talbot, sergeant at arms
Vivian Hurst, sergeant at arms
Danny Lemming, sergeant at arms

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION**Senate Bill No. 528 by Senator LaFleur**

Senator LaFleur presented Senate Bill No. 528, which provides relative to physician assistants.

Sarah Deyo, Louisiana Academy of Physician Assistants, 542 E. Wooddrift Dr, Baton Rouge, LA 70808, (225) 284-9315, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 528.

Duane Cowart, Louisiana Academy of Physician Assistants, 10935 Perkins Rd, Baton Rouge, LA, 70810, (225) 405-4088, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 528.

Representative LeBas offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 528 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 528 was reported favorably by a vote of 8 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Chaney, Horton, Hunter, Jackson, LeBas, Pope, and Hoffmann voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 5 in support, 0 in opposition, and 1 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Senate Bill No. 135 by Senator Mills

Senator Hewitt presented Senate Bill No. 135, which provides relative to hospital service districts, on behalf of Senator Mills.

John Davis, Slidell Memorial Hospital, 1011 Gause Blvd, Slidell, LA 70458, no phone number provided, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 135.

Gilbert Ganacheau, St Tammany Hospital Service District No. 2, 1150 Robert Blvd, Slidell, LA 70458, (504) 616-5238, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 135.

Representative Pope offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 135 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 135 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Chaney, Cox, Horton, Hunter, Jackson, Johnson, LeBas, Pope, and Hoffmann voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 4 in support, 0 in opposition, and 0 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Senate Bill No. 564 by Senator Luneau

Senator Luneau presented Senate Bill No. 564, which provides relative to behavioral health services providers.

Representative Hoffmann offered amendments which:

1. Revise the definition of "community psychiatric support and treatment services" in proposed law to delete a reference in the definition to behavioral health rehabilitation services.
2. Revise the definition of "psychosocial rehabilitation services" in proposed law to delete a reference in the definition to behavioral health rehabilitation services.
3. Define "preliminary accreditation", for purposes of proposed law, to mean accreditation granted by an accrediting body to an unaccredited program seeking full accreditation status.
4. Provide that reimbursement to behavioral health services providers that provide certain services in the Medicaid specialized behavioral health rehabilitation services program shall comply with the requirements of proposed law, subject to any required approval by the federal Medicaid agency.
5. Extend the period within which proposed law requires certain behavioral health services providers to attain full accreditation from 12 months to 18 months.
6. Delete provision of psychosocial rehabilitation (PSR) services on a full-time basis for a licensed and accredited provider agency on or before June 30, 2016, as a qualification for PSR providers without the degree required by proposed law to continue providing PSR services.
7. Change the minimum degree required by proposed law for provision of community psychiatric support and treatment services on and after July 1, 2018, from a master's degree to a bachelor's degree.
8. Stipulate that no facility need review approval for a license to provide psychosocial rehabilitation services or community psychiatric support and treatment services shall be granted to any applicant unless the La. Department of Health determines that the evidence and data submitted by the applicant establishes the probability of serious, adverse consequences to recipients' ability to access services if the provider is not allowed to seek licensure.

9. Make technical changes.

Representative Hoffmann offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Chaney, Cox, Horton, Hunter, Jackson, Johnson, LeBas, Pope, Stagni, and Hoffmann voted yea.

Christopher Mudd, Rehabilitation Services, 236 Arrowhead Dr., Bossier City, LA 71111, (318) 742-3408, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 564.

Representative Cox offered amendments to insert the following language: The Louisiana Department of Health shall not take any final action that will result in the elimination of psychosocial rehabilitation and community psychiatric support and treatment services unless such action is affirmatively approved by the House Committee on Health and Welfare and the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare.

Representative Cox offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Chaney, Cox, Horton, Hunter, Jackson, Johnson, LeBas, Pope, Stagni, and Hoffmann voted yea.

Representative Bagley offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 564 with amendments. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 564 was reported with amendments by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Chaney, Cox, Horton, Hunter, Jackson, Johnson, Stagni, and Hoffmann voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 10 in support, 0 in opposition, and 2 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Concurrent Resolution No. 49 by Representative Hunter

Representative Hunter presented House Concurrent Resolution No. 49, which urges the governor to declare a state of emergency concerning the quality of drinking water in Louisiana.

Dr. Jimmy Guidry, Louisiana Department of Health, 628 N 4th St, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-9509, spoke for information only on House Concurrent Resolution No. 49.

Amanda Laughlin, Louisiana Department of Health, 628 N 4th St, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-9509, spoke for information only on House Concurrent Resolution No. 49.

Representative Jackson is in the chair.

Representative Hoffmann is in the chair.

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Representative Bagley offered a motion to involuntarily defer action on House Concurrent Resolution No. 49. The motion was subsequently withdrawn and no vote was taken.

Representative Hunter offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Concurrent Resolution No. 49. Without objection, action on House Concurrent Resolution No. 49 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Chaney, Cox, Hunter, Jackson, Johnson, LeBas, Stagni, and Hoffmann voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 1 in support, 0 in opposition, and 0 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Resolution No. 104 by Representative Hunter

Representative Hoffmann announced that action on House Resolution No. 104, which urges the governor to declare a state of emergency concerning the quality of drinking water in Louisiana, was voluntarily deferred.

Senate Bill No. 286 by Senator Milkovich

Senator Milkovich presented Senate Bill No. 286, which provides relative to the Physician's Bill of Rights.

Representative Johnson provided a legal document, Exhibit A, which is included in the committee records.

Representative Horton provided a handout, Exhibit B, which is included in the committee records.

Senator Gerald Long, P.O. Box 151, Winnfield, LA 71483, (318) 628-8579, spoke for information only on Senate Bill No. 286.

Dr. Greg Stephens, 5422 Hawthorne Rd, Little Rock, AR 72207, (318) 453-9707, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 286.

Dr. Vincent Culotta, Dr. Vincent Culotta, Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners, 630 Camp St, New Orleans, LA 70130, (504) 905-2719, spoke for information only on Senate Bill No. 286.

Warren Rivera, Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners, 630 Camp St, New Orleans, LA 70310, (504) 568-1084, spoke for information only on Senate Bill No. 286.

Dr. Arnold Feldman, 17740 W. Lakeway Dr, Baton Rouge, LA 70810, (225) 939-1252, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 286.

Lynda Feldman, 17740 W. Lakeway Dr, Baton Rouge, LA 70810, (225) 939-1252, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 286.

Dana Bramlett, 12582 Three Lakes Dr, Walker, LA 70785, (225) 235-0114, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 286.

John Guianforte, 3924 Knight St, Bldg #4, Ste 434, Shreveport, LA 71105, (318) 617-8920, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 286.

Andrew Schlafly, Association of American Physicians & Surgeons, 939 Old Chester Rd, Far Hills, NJ 07931, (908) 719-8608, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 286.

Kathryn Stephens, 5 Spotwood Rd, Little Rock, AR 72207, (318) 453-9707, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 286.

Dean Altenhofen, 811 Beaujard's Pkwy, Lafayette, LA 70503, (337) 501-5788, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 286.

Jeff Williams, Louisiana State Medical Society, 6767 Perkins Rd, Ste 100, Baton Rouge, LA 70808, (225) 763-8500, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 286.

Dr. Sydney Crackower, 701 Robley Dr, Ste #100, Lafayette, LA 70503, (337) 988-4111, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 286.

Graham Spruiell, American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists, 144 Fountainbleau Dr, Mandeville, LA 70471, (617) 719-9415, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 286.

Lisa Robin, Federation of State Medical Boards, 1300 Connecticut Ave NW, Ste #500, Washington, DC 20036, (202) 463-4006, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 286.

Harold Patin, 4625 Tabony St, Metairie, LA 70006, (504) 644-4910, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 286.

Dr. Raymond Decorte, East Jefferson General Hospital, 4200 Houma Blvd, Metairie, LA 70006, (504) 503-4191, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 286.

Dr. David Hammond, Healthcare Professionals Foundation of Louisiana, 4303 Bluebonnet Blvd, Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 291-5000, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 286.

Marcella Babcock, 10534 Cal Road, Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 296-8109, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 286.

Daryl Purpera, 1600 N 3rd St, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 339-3839, spoke to provide information only on Senate Bill No. 286.

Dr. David Lewis, LSU Health Shreveport, 11852 Longfellow Cir, Shreveport, LA 71106, (318) 675-5379, spoke to provide information only on Senate Bill No. 286.

Linda Rodrigue, Kean Miller, LLP, 400 Convention St, Ste #700, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 382-3439, spoke to provide information only on Senate Bill No. 286.

Dr. Les Johnson, Board of Medical Examiners, 195 Davis Lake Dr, Rayville, LA 71269, (318) 372-5392, spoke to provide information only on Senate Bill No. 286.

Representative Richard offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 286 favorably, to which Representative Dustin Miller objected. Representative Dustin Miller offered a substitute motion to involuntarily defer action on Senate Bill No. 286. Without objection, action on Senate Bill No. 286 was involuntarily deferred by a vote of 9 yeas, 0 nays, and 1 abstention. Representatives Bagley, Chaney, Cox, Horton, Johnson, Dustin Miller, Richard, Stagni, and Hoffmann voted yea. Representative Jackson abstained.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 23 in support, 0 in opposition, and 1 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

Presentation - USDA Rural Development State Director on rural water systems.

Carrie Castille, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development, 3727 Government St, Alexandria, LA 71302, (318) 709-8686, provided a handout to the committee, Exhibit C, which is included in the committee records. Ms. Castille answered questions from the committee and addressed safe drinking water systems and rural hospital systems around the state.

Reinette S. Foster, USDA Rural Development, 3727 Government St, Alexandria, LA 71302, (318) 473-7944, introduced herself to the committee and provided the financial aspects of the Rural Development office.

Lee Jones, USDA Rural Development, 3727 Government St, Alexandria, LA 71302, (318) 473-7921, introduced himself to the committee and advised the committee that there was significant financial assistance for financing water systems and that his department is looking forward to working with the committee.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Frank A. Hoffmann
House Committee on Health and Welfare

Date adopted: